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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4169th meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 July 2000, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"Five years after the fall of Srebrenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Security Council pays tribute to the victims of one of the worst civilian massacres in Europe since the end of World War II. In the week after the fall of Srebrenica, a United Nations designated safe area, thousands of innocent civilians were murdered, and thousands of others forcibly relocated as a result of the policy of ethnic cleansing.

"The tragic events at Srebrenica must not be forgotten. The Council regrets the deplorable events and recalls its resolve to ensure that justice is carried out fully through the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and that such crimes are not repeated in the future. The Council stresses the importance that lessons be learned and acknowledges the Secretary-General's report on Srebrenica (A/54/549). The Council reiterates its commitment to the full implementation of the Dayton Paris Peace Accord and to the establishment of multi-ethnic democracy and the rule of law throughout the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

"I invite the members of the Council to stand and observe a minute of silence in honour of the victims of the Srebrenica massacre."

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